

THE JACOBS REPORT

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MICHIGAN SENATE

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FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

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GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES 2006 COOL CITIES DESIGNEES

Granholt Selects Six Projects

Governor Jennifer M. Granholt announced that seven projects have been selected for the 2006 Cool Cities Grants and Program. The remaining 2006 Cool Cities designees will be announced on Thursday, July 20 with events at 1:00 p.m. in Grand Rapids at The Hub, 1515 Madison SE, and at 3:30 p.m. in Old Town Lansing in front of Creole Gallery at 1218 Turner.

The Cool Cities designations are part of Governor Granholt's economic plan to revitalize Michigan's cities by retaining and attracting jobs and people to grow Michigan's economy.

"Michigan's economic success is directly tied to our ability to attract and retain jobs and opportunities that will keep our young adults here in Michigan," Granholt said. "The Cool Cities initiative is a critical tool for achieving vibrant cities, which attract job providers who in turn provide the opportunities that will grow our economy."

A Cool Cities designation brings with it a variety of "tool box" items provided by state agencies to help Michigan cities and neighborhoods achieve the projects outlined in their applications submitted for consideration by a review committee. The Cool Cities program utilizes existing state resources, which are used more efficiently through the collaboration of state agencies.

Now in its third year, the Cool Cities initiative offers a "Neighborhoods in Progress" designation, which awards \$100,000 catalyst grants along with priority access to existing state grant funds, loans, tax credits, or services that can help create vibrant, mixed-use neighborhoods.

The largest group of designees this year comes in the form of Cool Cities Neighborhoods in Progress, which include the communities of Flint (Genesee County Land Bank Authority/Kettering University's advanced technology and alternative energy research building), Detroit (Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation), Grand Rapids (Lighthouse Communities, Inc.), Benton Harbor (Citizens for Progressive Change), Muskegon (Muskegon Main Street), Mount Clemens (city of), Ionia (city of), Detroit/Highland Park (Focus: HOPE), Howell (city of), Detroit (Arab American and Chaldean Council), Lansing (Economic Development Corporation), Pontiac (city of and Pontiac Growth Group), Adrian (Downtown Development Authority), Cadillac (city of), Dearborn (city of along with Chamber of Commerce, West Downtown Development Authority and West Business Association) and Saginaw (Depot Preservation Corporation).

Neighborhoods in Progress designees receive \$100,000 starter grants, along with access to existing state grant funds, loans, services and tax credits.

The projects are estimated to create 456 full-time and 11 part-time jobs.

MICHIGAN CLEARED OF AVIAN FLU CONCERN

Restaurants, Retailers Receive Clean Bill of Health

Last week, an illegal shipment of food was delivered to a Troy warehouse from China, setting off alarm in the Department of Agriculture. After a thorough review, the Department has awarded the restaurants and retailers that received the food a clean bill of health.

Local health department sanitarians and state food inspectors expeditiously searched 36 southeast Michigan restaurants and 80 retail establishments for any tainted meat.

“While no evidence of illegally imported meat or poultry products were found, MDA inspection teams will continue to vigorously pursue compliance with Michigan’s food safety laws,” said department Director Mitch Irwin.

Janet Olszewski, director of the Department of Community Health, said state and local officials will continue to communicate on the health and safety of Michigan residents and that the incident showed how well both groups mobilized and responded to the public health concern.

The state has issued a summary suspension for Asia Food Services, Inc., also known as Tin's Way.

CHERRY ELECTED CHAIRMAN

National Organization Chooses Michigan’s Lieutenant Governor for Leader

LANSING – Lt. Governor John D. Cherry, Jr. was elected chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) during the organization’s annual meeting in Seattle, Washington, on Wednesday.

“I am honored to be chosen by my colleagues to serve as chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Association,” said Cherry. “Not only does the organization provide lieutenant governors with an opportunity to learn from one another, but we also promote critical policy and public service projects that benefit citizens across the country.”

In addition to his duties as lieutenant governor, Cherry was also asked by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to chair the Lieutenant Governor’s Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth. After a year of study and discussion, the commission made a series of recommendations that have served as a critical component of Granholm’s comprehensive economic plan that is transforming the state’s economy.

The National Lieutenant Governors Association, organized in 1962, is the professional association for elected officials who are next in line of succession to the governors in the 50 states and five territorial jurisdictions of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 42 states and four territories, this elected official bears the title of lieutenant governor. In three states and one territory, this official is the

secretary of state. In four states, the president of the senate is next in line of succession to the governor.

The NLGA provides members the opportunity for networking, meeting, fostering interstate cooperation, and promoting the effectiveness of the Office of Lieutenant Governor.

WIT, WISDOM, AND QUOTE OF THE WEEK . . .

Quotables

“There is no such thing as bad publicity except your own obituary.”

-Irish Author Brendan Behan, quoted in the *Enid, Oklahoma News & Eagle*

“The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.”

-Dorothy Parker, quoted in the Associated Press

Quote of the Week: Mark Twain

“Action speaks louder than words but not nearly as often.”

All Michigan legislation can be tracked at <http://www.legislature.michigan.gov/>.

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State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

Constituents of the 14th District may contact Senator Jacobs at sengiacobs@senate.michigan.gov or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.

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